In the *Critique of Pure Reason*, Kant argues that the categories provide a priori knowledge of appearances but cannot yield knowledge of things in themselves. Kant's claim raises a general question about the limits of conceptual thought. This course will examine the development of this question in Kant and post-Kantian thought (including German Idealism, Romanticism, and contemporary philosophy). Questions considered may include: Must the empirical world conform to the conceptual structure of thought? Are there aspects of the world that transcend conceptual thought? Are there ineffable things? Can we use concepts to know or think about things beyond the limits of experience? Can we use concepts to think of the unconditioned or absolute? Might there be non-conceptual forms of understanding?